

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-8. (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) A digital certificate according to claim 1, A digital certificate embodied on a computer readable medium executable on a computing system, comprising:  
a plurality of credential attribute properties; and  
a trust function embedded within the digital certificate as an executable program file, which trust function has data and can determine as a function of data available to it a trust value attributable to at least a part of the digital certificate at least partly when the executable program file is executed,

in which the trust function varies the trust value as a function of time.

10-21. (Cancelled).

22. (Currently Amended) A digital certificate according to claim 18, A digital certificate embodied on a computer readable medium executable on a computing system, comprising:  
a plurality of credential attribute properties; and  
a trust function embedded within the digital certificate as an executable program file, which trust function has data and can determine as a function of data available to it a trust value attributable to at least a part of the digital certificate at least partly when the executable program file is executed,

in which a credential function is provided in the certificate, which credential function is associated with at least one credential attribute property and which determines the value of the credential attribute property,

in which the credential function varies the credential attribute property value as a function of time.

23-38. (Cancelled).